



Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

## Department of Environmental Protection

One Winter Street Boston, MA 02108 • 617-292-5500

Mr. Nathaniel Norton, GIS Director  
Tighe & Bond, Inc.  
446 Main Street  
Worcester, MA. 01608

May 3, 2018

Dear Mr. Norton:

In 2017, as part of the Water Management Act (WMA) grant program, MassDEP initiated a standardized Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technical assistance project entitled, *Enhancing Resilience and Emergency Preparedness of Water Utilities through Improved Mapping*, which resulted in jumpstarting GIS mapping for 49 water utilities in 32 communities. Additional WMA funding was secured to continue this technical assistance, and on May 2, 2018, MassDEP announced Tighe & Bond as the successful bidder to continue working on this project in 2018 to provide specific GIS mapping for prioritized community Public Water Systems (PWSs), complete a statewide GIS datalayer of community PWS service areas, and develop a field use information report that will offer technology options water utilities may consider for accessing and enhancing their systems' GIS data in real time. PWS cooperation is imperative to successful results for this project, especially with regard to the statewide service area mapping development since the goal for work completion is June 30, 2018.

In the interest of transparency and in collaboration with additional state agency requests, MassDEP has been in the process of developing statewide service area data for public access. This statewide service area data provides a general view of existing public drinking water availability within each community in the Commonwealth. The service area data under development does not show any detailed information relative to critical infrastructure. It consists of a buffered polygon around roadways where PWS pipes are known to exist, thereby providing a general area of service within the community. Tighe & Bond will work with community officials to confirm draft, PWS service area information, and the completion of any necessary revisions or corrections to the service area maps. All systems that work with the contractor will receive a copy of the completed service area map as well.

This letter serves to identify Tighe & Bond, and its representatives, as contractors to MassDEP in order to provide assurances to PWS staff that Tighe & Bond is working as an agent of MassDEP through June 30, 2018.

For further information, please visit MassDEP's website at: <https://www.mass.gov/guides/water-utility-resilience-program> or contact Kristin Divris of MassDEP's Water Utility Resilience Program (WURP) at 508-849-4028 or [Kristin.Divris@state.ma.us](mailto:Kristin.Divris@state.ma.us).

Sincerely,

A.M. Yvette dePeiza  
Program Director, Drinking Water Program  
BWR/MassDEP

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